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(54) DISPLAY DEVICE

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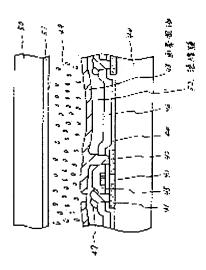
(21) Application number : **62-316708**

(57) Abstract:

PURPOSE: To improve the quality of an image by arranging picture element electrodes on an insulating film which covers at least part of an

active element and wiring.

CONSTITUTION: There is the insulating film on the element and there are picture element electrodes 4 on it, so thin film transistor TETs 41, 42, 43, and 45 and a data line 47 are covered with the electrode 48. Liquid crystal 49 is driven with an electric field between a counter electrode 51 and the electrode 48. The electrode 48 is formed of a transparent conductive film and polarizing plates are arranged on and under insulating substrates 40 and 50 to form the transmission type display device; when the gap between electrodes 48 is positioned right on the line 47 and a scanning line, wiring operates as a light shield layer and light transmitted through other parts is used effectively to obtain a bright picture with a high contrast ratio, thereby obtaining the excellent image quality.



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ら発明の名称 表示装置

②特 願 昭62-316708

@出 願 昭62(1987)12月15日

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明 細 4

1. 発明の名称

表示装置

2. 特許請求の範囲

(1)第1の絶縁基板上に2次元の能動案子アレイと、前記能動案子に信号を供給する配線を記録を記録を記録を確立れた画案電極とを備え、第1及び対向電極を備え、第1及び対向させて成る間隙に電気の絶縁基板を対向させて成る間隙に電気光学材料を封入して成る表示装置において、前記絶縁膜上に画案電極を配置したことを特徴とする表示装置。

(2)前記画業電極は、各画素電極間の間隙の少なくとも一部が前記配線上に位置するように配置されたことを特徴とする特許請求の範囲第1項記載の表示装置。

(3)前記能動素子及び配線上を覆う絶縁膜の厚

みは、前記能動業子及び配線上では薄く、その他 の部分では厚く形成されていることを特徴とする 特許請求の範囲第1項記載の表示装置。

(4)前記画業電極が金属薄膜で形成されている ことを特徴とする特許請求の範囲第1項記載の表 示装置。

3. 発明の詳細な説明

[産業上の利用分野]

本発明は、表示装置の構造に関する。

〔従来の技術〕

従来の電気光学材料を用いた表示装置の例としては、「日経エレクトロニクス」1984年9月10日号 No.351 P.211-240」に示されるようなものがある。第2回は表立線13の平面回の例であり、データ線12と走査線13の交点に薄膜トランジスタすなわちTFT14が配置され、各TFTには画素電極11が接されている。第3回は断面図の例であり、20及び30は絶縁基板、21、22、23はそれぞれTF

Tのソース部、ドレイン部、チャネル部、24は ゲート絶縁膜、25はゲート電極である。26は 層間絶縁膜、27はデータ線、28は画業電極、 31は対向電極で、2つの基板間に封入された液 晶等の電気光学材料29は、画素電極28と対向 電極31との間の電界で駆動される。

[発明が解決しようとする問題点]

本発明はこのような問題点を解決するものであ り、その目的とするところは、 画素を高密度化し

線3に、ドレイン電極は画素電極1に接続され、 TFTは走査線のタイミングに応じてデータ線の 信号を画素電極に与えるスイッチング素子として 用いられる。第4図において、40は絶縁基板、 41, 42, 43, 45 はそれぞれTFTのソー ス部、チャネル部、ドレイン部、ゲート電極であ り、44はゲート絶縁膜である。46は層間絶縁 膜で、47はデータ線である。本実施例において は、これらの素子の上にもう一層の絶縁膜52が あり、その上に画素電極48を形成するため、T FTの上部やデータ線の上部も画素電極で覆うこ とができる、50はもう一つの絶縁基板で51は 透明導電膜から成る対向電極、49は液晶である。 液晶49は対向電極51と画素電極48の間の電 界で駆動される。画案電極48を透明導電膜を用 いて形成し、2つの絶縁基板の上下に順光板を配 置すると、透過型の表示装置となるが、第1回の 様に画索電極どうしの間隙がちょうどデータ線と 走査線上にくるようにすれば、これらの配線が遮 光層として働き、それ以外の部分を透過する光は

てもコントラスト比が小さくなったり画面が暗く なったりしないような表示装置を実現するところ にある。

〔問題点を解決するための手段〕

本発明の表示装置は、能動素子及び配線上の少なくとも一部を覆う絶縁膜を備え、前記絶縁膜上に画素電極を配置したことを特徴とする。

〔作 用〕

本発明の上記の構成によれば、画素を高密度化 しても画案電極の占める面積の割合はほとんど変 わらない。従ってコントラスト比が小さくなった り画面が暗くなったりしない。

〔実施例1〕

本発明の表示装置の1実施例における平面図を第1図に、断面図を第4図に示す。本実施例では能動素子としてTFTを用い、電気光学材料として液晶を用いる。この表示装置は第1図のように、データ線2と走査線3、及びそれらの交点に設けられたTFT4と画素電極1とから成る。TFTのソース電極はデータ線2に、ゲート電極は走査

有効に使えるため、高コントラスト比で明るい画 面を得ることができる。一方、絶縁膜52の材料 としてポリイミドやガラス等を用い、液状で塗布 し表面を平坦化した上で、画素電極48にアルミ ニウムや金、アラチナ等の金属を用いると反射型 の表示装置となる。反射型の場合には各TFT間 の間隔を大きくする必要がないため極めて高精細 な画像を得ることができる。反射型の表示装置で あればシリコン基板を用いることもできるが、大 面積の画像を表示する場合、配線の寄生容量が大 きいため適していない。大画面で高精細の画像を 得るには絶縁基板を用いる必要がある。また、反 射型では表示品質を向上させるために各画業に保 持容量を作り込んでも画面の明るさは変わらない。 例えばMOS容量等を用いて液晶の数~数十倍の 容量を付加することができる。これによって、非 常に広い温度範囲で高コントラスト比で面内均一 性の良い画像を再現性良く得ることができる。こ の様な表示装置の応用例としては投射型表示装置 等がある。本発明の表示装置は薄型で高精細かつ

高品質の画像を表示できるためこれを透過型または反射型のライトバルブとして用いると小型の装置で高品質かつ大画面の画像を表示できる投射型表示装置が実現できる。

〔実施例2〕

第5回は、第1の実施例と異なる構造のTFTを用いた表示装置の断面図の例である。本実施例においてはゲート電極45がチャネル部の下側にあるため、ゲート絶縁膜44が層間絶縁膜が一層少なくなっている。この様な構造のTFTでも第1の実施例と同様に絶縁膜52を形成した後面像を得ることができる。

〔実施例3〕

第6図は本発明の第3の実施例を示す表示装置の断面図の例である。この例では能動業子としてTFTの代わりに2端子型非線形抵抗業子を用いる。2端子素子を用いる場合、第1の絶縁基板60上には配線は走査線65のみで、第2の絶縁基

他の配線は絶縁膜の下にあるため、電気光学材料には必要な信号電圧のみが印加される。したがって画素のすみずみまで透過率または反射率が一様となり高品質の画像が得られ、電気光学材料の信頼性も向上する。

一方、反射型の表示装置として用いる場合には、 保持容量を付加することにより高精細かつ高コントラスト比で面内均一性の極めて良い面像を、広い温度範囲で再現性良く得ることができる。また、能動案子の寄生容量によってスイッチング時に生じるオフセット電圧もほとんどなくなるため、フリッカーがなくなり電気光学材料の信頼性も一段と向上する。

4. 図面の簡単な説明

第1図は表示装置の平面図.

第2図は従来の表示装置の平面図。

第3回は従来の表示装置の断面図。

第4、5、6図は表示装置の断面図。

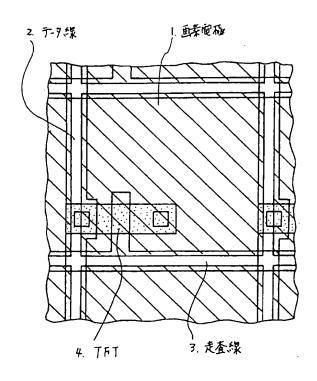
(発明の効果)

以上述べたように本発明の表示装置は、画素電極の占有面積を最大にすることができるため、画素を高密度化しても画面が暗くならない。しかも、配線が遮光層として働くためコントラスト比も大きくとれる。さらに、液晶等の電気光学材料に接する表面には画素電極と対向電極のみが配置され、

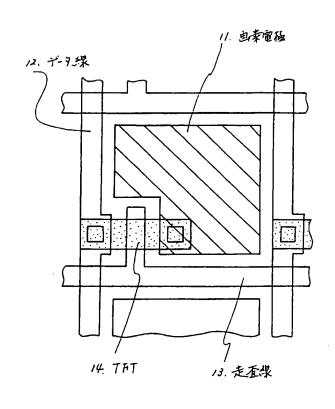
以上

出願人 セイコーエアソン株式会社 代理人 弁理士 最 上 務 (他1名)

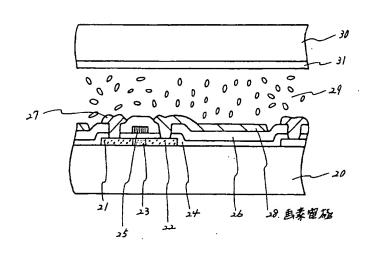
特開平1-156725 (4)



第1团



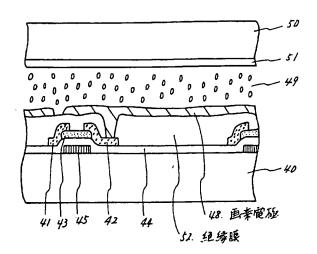
第 2 図

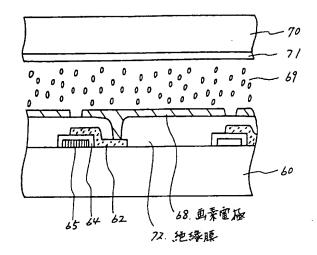


47 45 43 42 44 46 48. 鱼来电秘

第3四

第4四





第5四

第日图

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- (19) Japanese Patent Office (JP)
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- (72) Inventor: Yojiro Matsueda c/o Seiko Epson Company, Ltd. 3-3-5 Yamato, Suwa-shi, Nagano
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Specification

1. Title of the Invention

Display

2. What Is Claimed

- (1) A Display characterized as, being made by encapsulating electrical optical material between the gap countered the first insulating substrate on which the planar active element arrays, interconnections to input signals to said active elements and picture element electrodes connected to said each active elements being provided and the second substrate on which a counter electrode being provided, and a insulating film covering said active elements and at least on the partial surface of interconnection being provided, and picture element electrodes being arranged on said insulating film.
- (2) The display of Claim 1, characterized as said picture element electrodes being arranged as at least the part of the gap between each picture element electrode on said interconnection.
- (3) The display of Claim 1, characterized as the insulating film covering said active elements and the surface of the interconnection being formed thinly on said active elements and the surface of the interconnection and thickly on the

other part.

(4) The display of Claim 1, characterized as said picture element electrodes being formed by metal thin film.

Detailed Description of the Invention

(An Industrial Utilizable Field)

The present invention relates to a structure of a display.

(The Conventional Technique)

An example of the display using the conventional electrical optical material is shown in p. 211 to 240 of Nikkei Electronics No. 351, published in September 10, 1984. Figure 2 shows the example of plan view of the display, thin film transistor, TFT 14 is arranged at the intersecting point of the data line 12 and the scan line 13, the picture element electrode 11 is connected to each TFT. Figure 3 shows the example of the cross-section, 20 and 30 are the insulating substrates, 21, 22, and 23 are the source, the drain, and the channel of TFT, 24 is the gate insulating film and 25 is the gate electrode. 26 is the interlayer insulating film, 27 is the data line, 28 is the picture element electrode, 31 is the counter electrode, and the electrical optical material 29 like as liquid crystal encapsulated between two substrates are driven in the electric field between the picture element electrode 28 and the counter electrode 31.

(The Problem Which This Invention Would Resolve)

However, the conventional technique above mentioned has the problem as follows. That is to say, it is necessary to minimize the area of picture element in order to realize high resolution of picture of display. But, generally, it is difficult to minimize the active element and the area of interconnection, the rate of the area which the picture element electrode occupies is reduced. Because only the region of picture element electrode can display the image, the reduce of rate of it causes a reduction of the contrast rate and a remarkable damage of the picture quality. Glare protection of the part except the picture element electrode is effective to make the contrast rate high, but makes the picture dim.

This invention would resolve such problems, and its purpose is a realization of the display that a contrast rate is not reduced and a picture does not become dim in spite of a high density of picture element.

(The Means to Solve the Problem)

The display of this invention is characterized as being provided the insulating film covering the active elements and at least the partial surface of the interconnection, and the picture element electrodes being arranged on said insulating film.



The constitution of this invention above mentioned, the rate of area the picture element electrodes occupy hardly changes by a high density of picture element. Therefore, it does not cause the reduction of the contrast rate or the picture dim.

(Embodiment 1)

Figure 1 shows the plan view, and Figure 4 shows the cross-section of an Embodiment of the display of this invention. In this Embodiment, TFT is used as the active element, and liquid crystal is used as the electrical optical This display consists of the data line 2, the scan line 3, TFT 4 provided on the intersecting point of them, and the picture element electrode 1. The source electrode of TFT is connected with the data line 2, the gate electrode with the scan line 3, and the drain electrode with the picture element electrode 1, and TFT is used as a switching element sending the signal of the data line to the picture element electrode in response to the timing of the scan In Figure 4, 40 is the insulating substrate, 41, 42, 43, and 45 are the source, the channel, the drain and the gate electrode of TFT, and 44 is the gate insulating film. 46 is the interlayer insulating film, and 47 is the data line. In this Embodiment, another insulating film 52 is on these elements. Because the picture element electrode 48 is formed on it, the top of the TFT and the data line can be covered with the picture element electrode. 50 is the other

insulating substrate. 51 is the counter electrode made of the transparent conductive film, and 49 is the liquid crystal. The liquid crystal 49 is driven in the electric field between the counter electrode 51 and the picture element electrode 48. The transmission type display is made by the picture element electrode 48 being formed by using the transparent conductive film and the polarizing plates being set above and below of two insulating substrates. the gaps between the picture element electrodes are arranged just on the data line and the scan line like as Figure 1, these interconnections function as the glare protective layer, the light transmitted through the other parts is used effectively, and the high contrast rate and bright picture can be gotten. other hand, the reflection type display is made by coating with the liquid material of polyimide or glass as a material of insulating film 52 for planarizing the surface, and providing the picture element electrode 48 using the metal like as aluminum, gold or platinum. The reflection type display can get the very high resolution image because it is not necessary to enlarge the gap between each TFT. Silicon substrate can be used in the reflection type display, but in case of displaying the image of large area, is not suitable The insulating because a parasitic capacity of interconnection is large. substrate needs using to get the high resolution image in a large picture. in the reflection type display, the brightness of the picture does not change by making hold capacity in each picture element to improve the display quality. For example, the capacity of several to score times of liquid crystal can be



added by using the capacity of MOS etc. With this, the image of high contrast rate and good uniformity in picture in a very broad range of temperature can be get with good reproducibility. As an application example of the display like this, there are a projection type display and etc. Because the display of this invention is thin and can display the image of high resolution and high quality, the projection type display which is small and can display the image of high quality and large picture can be realized by using the display of this invention as a <u>light valve</u> of the transmission type or the reflection type.

(Embodiment 2)

Figure 5 shows an example of cross-section of the display using a different structural TFT from Embodiment 1. In this Embodiment, the gate insulating film 44 substitutes for the interlayer insulating film because the gate electrode 45 is below the channel. The insulating film is much thinner than that of Figure 4. Even using TFT of the different structure, the same image as Embodiment 1 can be gotten by forming the picture element electrode 48 after forming the insulating film 52 as same as Embodiment 1.

(Embodiment 3)

Figure 6 shows the example of cross-section of the display of the Embodiment 3 in this invention. In this example, two-terminal non-line resistor elements are used instead of active elements. In case of using the two-terminal elements, the interconnection is the scan line 65 only on the first insulating substrate 60, and the counter electrode 71 on the second insulating substrate 70

terminal element is simple compared with TFT. for example of MIM diode, the insulating film 64 is interposed between the metal electrode 62 and the scan line 65 made of metal and its non-line resistor is used. As the other examples of two-terminal element, there are a diode ring, a NIN diode, a MSI diode and etc. In all cases, when the insulating film 72 is formed on these elements, the picture element electrode 68 is provided on the film, and the gap between the picture element electrode is arranged on the scan line, high contrast rate and bright image can be gotten in spite of high resolution. And, when the picture element electrode made of metal is formed, the reflection type display can be realized.

(The Effect of This Invention)

As above mentioned, in the display of this invention, the picture does not become dim in spite of high resolution of the picture element because the occupied area of the picture element electrode can be maximized. And, the contrast rate is high because the interconnection functions as the glare-protective layer. Moreover, the electrical optical material is applied a necessary signal voltage only because only the picture element electrode and the counter electrode are arranged on the surface being in contact with the electrical optical material like as liquid crystal and other interconnections are below the insulating film. Therefore, a high quality image can be gotten

because a transmittance and a reflectance become uniform all over the picture elements, and a reliability of the electrical optical material is elevated.

On the other hand, in case of using the reflection type display, by adding the hold capacity, the image of high resolution, high contrast rate and a very good uniformity in picture in a broad range of temperature can be get with good reproducibility. And, a flicker disappears because the off-set voltage caused by switching is almost lost by the parasitic capacity of the active element and the reliability of the electrical optical material is further elevated.

4. The Brief Explanation of the Figures

Figure 1 shows the plan view of the display.

Figure 2 shows the plan view of the conventional display.

Figure 3 shows the cross-section of the conventional display.

Figure 4, 5 and 6 show the cross-section of the display.

1, 11, 28, 48 and 68 ···· picture element electrode

52 and 72 ···· insulating film

2 and 12 ···· data line

3 and 13 ···· scan line

above all

Applicant: Seiko Epson Company, Ltd.

Patent Attorney: Tsutomu Mogami and other

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